



Life Course

Childhood Risk Factor

Brief Name

ACE: Experienced Racism

Indicator

Percent of children who were treated unfairly due to race or ethnicity.

Description

This is a proxy measure for toxic stress and is included as an Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE). This question asks parents, *"Was [child's name] ever treated or judged unfairly because of [his/her] race or ethnic group?"*

WI	US	Best	Worst
2.5%*	4.1%	1.8%	6.5%
		VT	AZ

Year

2011/2012

Numerator

Number of children who experienced the ACE

Denominator

Children aged 0-17

*Indicates statistically significant difference from the US value at $p < 0.05$.

Importance

A measure of racism was not in the original list of ACEs, but early experiences of racism have measurable and broad negative impacts on health (R. Williams, 2000; Chae, 2015).

Limitations

The National Survey of Children's Health (NSCH) is completed by the parent or caregiver, who may not be aware of all of the instances of his/her child's exposure to racism or unfair treatment.

Source

NSCH 2011/12. Data query from the Child and Adolescent Health Measurement Initiative, Data Resource Center for Child and Adolescent Health website. Retrieved from www.childhealthdata.org. R. Williams, David, and Ruth Williams-Morris. "Racism and mental health: the African American experience." *Ethnicity and Health*, 5.3-4 (2000): 243-268. Chae, David H., et al. "Association between an internet-based measure of area racism and black mortality." *PloS One*, 10.4 (2015): e0122963.